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# THE PARENTS' REVIEW

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE  
OF HOME-TRAINING AND CULTURE.

"Education is an atmosphere, a discipline, a life."

Vol. XVI. No. 1.]

[JANUARY, 1905.]

## A NEW YEAR'S MEDITATION.

"Blessed are the—"

BY THE EDITOR.

MASTER, Thou will'st me poor—  
Haughty and rich am I;  
In self-dependence rich,  
Presuming, hard, and high:  
Faith, looking on the coming years, doth see  
Dark faults, sore failures, let to humble me.  
Thy will be done!

A mourner must I be:  
And holy messengers  
Oft have Thy presence left,  
To bring me blessed tears:  
Too soon they fail, and sin's hot breath sweeps by:  
Then wilt Thou take the spot and show it me,  
Till, weeping, fain I turn to hide in Thee:  
Thy will be done!

Meek wouldst Thou have Thy child:  
How little can I bear!  
How seldom wait for Thee,  
Quiet, within Thy care!  
Though through provokings, teach me to endure,  
Bid errors make me of myself less sure.  
Thy will be done!



A hung'ring, thirsting one  
Must Thy disciple be ;  
And I so full ! grown fat  
On Thy gifts, leaving Thee !  
But Thou wilt teach me want, or take away  
All lesser bread, till Thou, my only stay :  
Thy will be done !

Merciful as Thou art :  
Oh, how hard judgments rise !  
Oh, this censorious tongue,  
Evil-discerning eyes !  
Yet His sweet mercy will my King impart,  
If by no other way, e'en through the smart  
Of pity withheld in my extremities :  
Thy will be done !

Pure, e'en in Thy pure eyes :  
Single and free from guile ;  
Oh, when shall these vain thoughts  
Pure rising, meet Thy smile ?  
E'en this, through Thee, is mine : though it should be  
That, first, through purging fires, Thou go with me :  
Thy will be done !

Ruled by the Prince of Peace :  
How far from this my state—  
Oft striving for my own,  
Exacting, harsh, irate.  
No peace is found in me ; but Thou wilt come  
And make this chafing bosom Thy sweet home :  
Thy will be done !

Thus I abide His time ;  
For hath the King not sworn  
That all these shall be mine,  
And will not He perform ?  
If tender ways shall serve, such wilt Thou use ;  
But smite, if need be ; I would not refuse :  
Thy will be done !

## THE CHRISTIAN IN HOME LIFE.\*

BY THE RIGHT REVEREND R. F. L. BLUNT, D.D.,

*Bishop of Hull, Vicar of Scarborough, and Canon Residentiary of York.*

OUR subject is of universal interest and inestimable importance. For Englishmen home possesses a unique attraction, for Christians a unique sacredness ; and we, who are Englishmen and Christians, should be foremost in its defence. Attacks on the home are, next to attacks on the faith, the most serious. Whatever touches the sanctity of the home touches the life of the nation, and the defence of the home is essential to the very existence of religion amongst us. At present that sanctity is threatened from many quarters. We have to defend it on the one hand against the asceticism of the few who set up celibacy as the ideal religious life to the disparagement of marriage, and on the other hand against the thinly veiled worldliness of the many who hold up as the one aim in life for sons and daughters what is called "a good match"—advantageous indeed from a material point of view, but often shameful in the methods pursued to attain it, and most disastrous in its results. These are foes from within. But without are more open enemies, whose avowed aim it is to undermine the permanence and the sanctity of the marriage state, and, by substituting the worship of humanity for the worship of God, to make the caprice of the individual or the convenience of society the foundation of the home and the basis of conjugal, parental, filial, and fraternal relations. To us Christians these theories are alike immoral in principle and deadly in working. We hold that the welfare of society as a whole, and the liberty and due development of each member of it, can only be secured by obedience to the eternal and unchangeable moral laws of God, laws which form not only the sanction but the very condition of all family life. Brought face to face with theories

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